

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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FROM: Tripoli

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 478, January 14, 5 p.m.

Control:

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January 14, 1958

5:19 p.m.

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SENT DEPARTMENT 478; REPEATED INFORMATION LONDON 72, BENGAZI UNNUMBERED

JOINT EMBASSY/USOM MESSAGE

Recent messages London/Washington indicate way clear discuss FY 1958 US aid level with GOL Embassy/USOM request suggest specific authorization open discussions, presenting possibilities paragraph 2 (C), TOICA 338, at same time as (A), (B). Seven million development aid offer will be weighed by GOL in light its aid request, now in preparation, believed to exceed \$25 million. Supplementary items even on contingency basis likely be more effective now in moderating initial GOL dissatisfaction aid level than in dispelling it later. Furthermore, virtually impossible prevent leaks on course discussions. In event of immediate Egypt-Soviet attempt take advantage of situation by offering make up any "short-fall" in Libyan development needs, later presentation supplementary items might seem forced rather than spontaneous addition to basic aid level.

In anticipation probably GOL reaction if US-UK budgetary combined with domestic resources found seriously inadequate meet minimum GOL FY 1958/59 budgetary needs, request and by authorization indicate prospect higher US FY 1959 aid level, part of which might be used cover GOL FY 1958/ budgetary needs if necessary.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/C/O/NR
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